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OGC Has Reviewed

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

FUNCTIONS AND ACTIVITIES

31 October 1951

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The Office of the General Counsel is established by Central Intelligence Agency [redacted] as a staff function responsible for advising the Director on legal and legislative matters; advising and assisting all officials and employees on legal matters arising in connection with the official business of the Agency and on all other matters involving the legal interpretation and significance of existing or pending legislation; reviewing all regulatory material of the Agency for legality prior to publication; studying and recommending, in terms of present laws and proposed legislation, Agency action in connection with the interpretation or enactment of legislation in order to preserve or attain legislative requirements of the Agency; control of all general liaison outside the Agency relating to legal matters. There is no breakdown of the Office as the legal staff services all components of the Agency at all levels as circumstances require.

Outside the legal staff as such, but in the Office of the General Counsel, is the Legislative Counsel, also established by Central Intelligence Agency [redacted] and responsible for conduct of all liaison with the Congress. The Legislative Counsel is directly responsible to the General Counsel, who is responsible for all legal aspects of the relationships with the Congress, but the Legislative Counsel reports directly to the Inspector General on all substantive and policy aspects of the legislative liaison. In practice, the Inspector General, the General Counsel, and the Legislative Counsel coordinate closely on all aspects of this function.

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